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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

On March 12, 2002

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: [Signature]



Attorney Docket No.: 02307E-099810US
Client Ref. No.: 1999-373-2

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APR 1 2002

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Gwynne Attarian, *et al.*

Application No.: 09/747,385

Filed: December 22, 2000

For: FUSOBACTERIUM NUCLEIC
ACIDS, PLASMIDS AND VECTORS

Examiner: Davis, Katharine F.

Art Unit: 1636

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed September 13, 2001, please
amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (amended) An isolated origin of replication functional in
Fusobacterium nucleatum that comprises at least two copies of an iteron, the iteron
comprising a nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:3.

B1